

Handout 2: Defining Family Support

Instructions

Appoint a group facilitator/reporter. Your group has 20 minutes to discuss the questions listed below. Make sure that all group members have the opportunity to share their responses to the questions. Record the group's answers on newsprint.

Discussion Questions

1. What do you think of when you hear the phrase "family support"?
2. In what way is family support an important part of your work with families? What kinds of opportunities do you have in your job to support families?
3. In light of what you saw on the videotape, how does your work with families compare to the work of staff in the Florida Head Start agency? Did you see staff in the Florida agency doing anything that you would also like to do in your job? Or, that you would like to see your Head Start agency do?
4. In thinking about the families in your Head Start community, and the challenges they face, do you believe your Head Start agency does a good job of supporting families? If yes, in what ways? If not, what can your agency do to help Head Start become more supportive of families?
5. If you were given the job of designing a model family support program, what would the program be like?